

1. (FIVE TIMES AMENDED) A charging system for automatically calculating a charge for a dish or drink selected by a customer, comprising:
 - writing means for writing data in at least two re-writable data carriers, each of the re-writable data carriers being attached to a container of a dish or drink;
 - reading means for reading data in a non-contact state from the re-writable data carriers, each of the re-writable data carriers including a communication control logic to cause each of the re-writable data carriers to enter a state of waiting a predetermined period to answer an inquiry from the reading means after communicating with the reading means; and
 - calculating means for calculating the charge using the read data and displaying the charge.

2. (FIVE TIMES AMENDED) A charging system for automatically calculating a charge for a dish or drink selected by a customer, comprising:
 - input means for inputting data to be used to calculate a charge; and
 - writing means for writing the data in at least two re-writable data carriers each of which is attached to a container of a dish or drink and each of the re-writable data carriers including a communication control logic to cause each of the re-writable data carriers to enter a state of waiting a predetermined period to answer an inquiry from the writing means after communicating with the writing means.

5. (FIVE TIMES AMENDED) A charging system for automatically calculating a charge for a dish and drink selected by a customer, comprising:
 - reading means for reading data in a non-contact state from at least two re-writable data carriers attached to a container of one or more dishes or drinks selected by the customer, each of the re-writable data carriers including a communication control logic to cause each of the re-writable data carriers to enter a state of waiting a predetermined period to answer an inquiry

from the reading means after communicating with the reading means; and
calculating means for calculating the charge using the read data.

10. (FIVE TIMES AMENDED) A container used in connection with reading means for reading data for an automatic calculation of a charge of a dish or drink selected by a customer, comprising:

means for holding the dish or drink; and
a re-writable data carrier means for recording data to be used to calculate the charge, the re-writable data carrier means being attached to the container of the dish or the drink and including a communication control logic to cause the re-writable data carrier means to enter a state of waiting a predetermined period to answer an inquiry from the reading means after communicating with the reading means.

11. (FIVE TIMES AMENDED) A calorie calculating system for automatically calculating calories of a dish or drink selected by a customer, comprising:

reading means for reading data in a non-contact state from at least two re-writable data carriers, each of the re-writable data carriers being attached to a container of one or more dishes or drinks selected by the customer, each of the re-writable data carriers including a communication control logic to cause each of the re-writable data carriers to enter a state of waiting a predetermined period to answer an inquiry from the reading means after communicating with the reading means; and

calculating means for calculating calories of the one or more dishes or drinks using read data and displaying the calories.

12. (FIVE TIMES AMENDED) A charging system for automatically calculating a charge for goods selected by a customer, comprising:

reading means for reading data in a non-contact state from at least two re-writable data carriers, each of the re-writable data carriers being attached to a container of one or more items of goods selected by the customer, each of the re-writable data carriers including a communication control logic to cause each of the re-writable data carriers to enter a state of waiting a predetermined period to answer an inquiry from the reading means after communicating with the reading means; and

calculating means for calculating the charge for the one or more items of goods using read data and displaying the charge.

14. (FOUR TIMES AMENDED) A computer-readable recording medium encoded with a program for controlling a computer, the program comprising:

inputting data to be used to calculate a charge for a dish or drink selected by a customer; and

writing the data in at least two re-writable data carriers, each of the re-writable data carriers being attached to a container of the dish or drink, each of the re-writable data carriers including a communication control logic to cause each of the re-writable data carriers to enter a state of waiting a predetermined period to answer an inquiry from a reading means after communicating with the reading means.

15. (FIVE TIMES AMENDED) A computer-readable recording medium encoded with a program for controlling a computer, the program comprising:

reading data in a non-contact state from at least two re-writable data carriers, each of the re-writable data carriers being attached to a container of one or more dishes or drinks selected by a customer, each of the re-writable data carriers including a communication control logic to cause each of the re-writable data carriers to enter a period of waiting a predetermined period to answer an inquiry from a reading means after communicating with the reading means;

calculating a charge for the one or more dishes or drinks using the read data; and
displaying the charge.

16. (FIVE TIMES AMENDED) A charging method for automatically calculating a charge for a dish or drink selected by a customer, comprising:

writing data in at least two re-writable data carriers, each of the re-writable data carriers being attached to a container of a dish or drink;
reading data in a non-contact state from the data carriers of one or more dishes or drinks selected by the customer, each of the re-writable data carriers including a communication control logic to cause each of the re-writable data carriers to enter a state of waiting a predetermined period after to answer an inquiry from a reading means after communicating with a reading means;

calculating said charge using read data; and
displaying said charge.

17. (THREE TIMES AMENDED) A charging system for automatically calculating a charge for a dish or drink selected by a customer, comprising:

a writing unit writing data in at least two re-writable data carriers, each of the re-writable data carriers being formed as part of a container of a dish or drink;
a reading unit reading data in a non-contact state from the re-writable data carriers, each of the re-writable data carriers including a communication control logic to cause each of the re-writable data carriers to enter a state of waiting a predetermined period to answer an inquiry from the reading unit after communicating with the reading unit; and
a calculating unit calculating the charge using the read data and displaying the charge.

20. (THREE TIMES AMENDED) A container used in connection with reading means

for reading data for automatic calculation of a charge of a dish or drink selected by a customer, comprising:

tableware to hold the dish or drink; and
a re-writable data carrier to record data to be used to calculate the charge, the re-writable data carrier being attached to the container, and the re-writable data carrier including a communication control logic which causes the re-writable data carrier to enter a state of waiting a predetermined period to answer an inquiry from the reading means after communicating with the reading means.

21. (TWICE AMENDED) The container used in an automatic calculation of a charge of a dish or drink according to claim 20, wherein said re-writable data carrier further comprises:

an antenna;
a voltage generator circuit to provide power to said data carrier in response to electromotive force received from the antenna; and
a memory unit to record the data to be used to calculate the charge.

22. (TWICE AMENDED) The container used in an automatic calculation of a charge of a dish or drink according to claim 21, wherein said re-writable data carrier further comprises:

a modulator/demodulator to communicate modulated data between the antenna with the memory unit.

24. (FOUR TIMES AMENDED) A container used in an automatic calculation of a charge of a dish or drink comprising:

an antenna;
a memory;
a communication control logic to record data in a re-writable data carrier to be used to